

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 DLOS-06

ISO-00 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00

FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 DRC-01 /255 W

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R 170001Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 260

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3982

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, FPOR, PBOR

SUBJ: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE: PARTICIPANTS

1. AMB STEVENSON MET WITH AMERASINGHE FOLLOWING COMITE 1 SESSION (USUN 3972) TO DISCUSS PROPOSED CONF RES. AMERASINGHE, WHO HAD JUST MET WITH ZEGERS (CHILE), SAID SANTIAGO WAS DEFINITELY OUT AS CONF SITE. HE STATED HE UNDERSTOOD ZEGERS WOULD NOT FORMALLY WITHDRAW INVITATION BUT WOULD SUPPORT RES REFERRING TO ANOTHER SITE, THEREBY ACQUIESCING IN CHANGE OF VENUE. CHOICE APPEARS LIMITED TO GENEVA OR VIENNA.

2. AMERASINGHE SAID THERE SEEMS TO BE MOVE AWAY FROM TWO SESSIONS OF CONF IN 1974 AND TOWARD SINGLE SESSION OF TEN WEEKS. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT CONF BE HELD IN GENEVA IN APRIL/MAY/JUNE WITH INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK IN INTER-SESSIONAL PERIOD. AMERASINGHE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL PREFERENCE FOR TWO SESSIONS BUT INDICATED HE COULD NOT OBJECT TO SINGLE SESSION IDEA. COMMENT: CANADA (BEESLEY)

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APPEARS TO BE PUSHING SINGLE SESSION IDEA ACTIVELY, SAYING

SMALLER COUNTRIES DO NOT HAVE RESOURCES TO GO TO TWO CONFS
IN ONE YEAR. UK (JACKLING) ALSO FAVORS SINGLE SESSION
BECAUSE FEELS GOVTS WILL BE UNWILLING NEGOTIATE AT PRELIMINARY
SESSION. END COMMENT.

3. AMERASINGHE EXPECTS INVITATION QUESTION TO BE A PROBLEM.
HE HOPES COMITE 1 CAN APPROVE CONF RES LEAVING BLANK SPECIFIC
ADDITIONAL STATES TO BE ADDED (PARA 8 IN RES REPORTED USUN 3900).
THIS WOULD PASS ISSUE TO UNGA WHERE HE EXPECTS EFFORTS WILL BE
MADE TO INVITE PRG, GUINEA (B), AND POSSIBLY NAMIBIA IN ADDITION
TO DRV. HE RECOGNIZES UNGA MUST ACT PROMPTLY IF INVITATIONS
TO BE ISSUED IN TIME FOR ORGANIZATION SESSION.

4. IN COMMENTING ON US PROPOSAL TO FOLLOW UNGA PRACTICE ON
COMPOSITION OF GENERAL COMITE (GC), AMERASINGHE STATED HIS VIEW
THAT GC SHOULD HAVE 36 MEMBERS COMPOSED AS FOLLOWS: AFRICA, 8;
ASAI, 7; LA, 6; WEO, 6; EE, 3; CONF CHAIRMAN 1; COMITE CHAIRMEN, 4;
DRAFTING COMITE CHAIRMAN, 1. HE THOUGHT AFRO-ASIANS WOULD RESIST
EFFORTS TO HAVE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SC SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO
IN RES. AMERASINGHE FAVORS GC ROLE IN DECIDING WHEN VOTING BEGINS.
IN HIS VIEW GC COULD ONLY RECOMMEND TO PLENARY WHEN VOTING SHOULD
BEGIN, BUT GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION CONTROLLING
WOULD BE FEASIBLE. EH WOULD AGREE TO GC RECOMMENDATION ON VOTING
BEING TAKEN BY TWO-THIRDS OF FULL MEMBERSHIP OF COMITE.

5. AMERASINGHE SAYS ZEGERS NO LONGER CANDIDATE FOR CHAIRMAN OF
DRAFTING COMITE. CASTANEDA (MEXICO) HAS SUGGESTED MUSTAFA YASSEEN
(IRAQ).
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